



Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Things Are Beginning To Warm Up!

Michael Colizzi

Well it seems like things are beginning to warm up, temperatures for the next week are expected to range from the upper 60's to low 80's. Some rain is possible as well. Most early varieties like Chardonnay, Gewurztraminer, Geneva Red, Baco, Concord, Catawba, Marquette, Jupiter, etc. are progressing nicely. We are seeing that most of these varieties have started to swell or are just about at bud burst now. With the warm temperatures and moisture over the next several days we should see bud break soon.



Figure 1 Chardonnay buds swelling on the west side of Seneca Lake

Now is the time to be scouting for flea beetle and cutworm in vineyards. Cutworm larvae feed on the buds from full bud swell through bud break and until the shoots are 10 to 15 cm long. They also feed on the young leaves. Grape flea beetle adults attack the swelling buds by boring into them and hollowing out the inside. While out in vineyards this week I have not seen either of these insects yet.

More information on [grape flea beetle](#) and [cutworm](#) can be found by following these links. In most years and in most vineyards, damage is not significant enough to warrant a spray for these pests. If scouting indicates the need for a spray application, however, materials and rates for both pests can be found on page 54 of the 2014 Grape IPM Guidelines.

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Tailgate Meetings Begin

May 13, 2014

Spring Grape IPM Meeting

May 22, 2014



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY

2014 Farm Bill

FACT SHEET

March 2014

New Farm Bill Offers Modifications to Crop Insurance Programs

OVERVIEW

The 2014 Farm Bill, signed by President Obama on Feb. 7, 2014, continues programs with modifications and authorizes several new programs administered by the Risk Management Agency (RMA).

The Farm Bill strengthens crop insurance by providing more risk management options for farmers and ranchers and by making crop insurance more affordable for beginning farmers. It continues the growth of the crop insurance program, and provides avenues to expand farm safety net options for organic producers and specialty crop producers. It provides for increased program integrity, guaranteeing that tax dollars are used effectively and efficiently as we expand the farm safety net.

There are many changes to the crop insurance program. Some of the major changes are outlined below.

EXPANSION AND INNOVATION

Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO)

SCO is a county level revenue or yield based optional endorsement that covers a portion of losses not covered by the same crop's underlying crop insurance policy. Indemnities will be payable once a 14 percent loss has occurred in the county, and individual payments will depend upon coverage levels selected by producers. Producers may not enroll a crop in a county for both SCO and Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC), which is offered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). However, producers may participate in both SCO and Price Loss Coverage, another program administered by FSA.

The Farm Bill requires SCO to be made available beginning with the 2015 crop year. Producers who enroll their winter wheat in SCO may elect to withdraw from SCO prior to their acreage reporting date without any penalty. This allows producers additional time to make an informed decision related to whether to enroll in the ARC or the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) program. If they choose ARC, they will not be charged a crop insurance premium so long as their SCO coverage is voided prior to their acreage reporting date.

RMA is making every effort to offer SCO to as many producers as possible. SCO will be available for corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, spring wheat, and winter wheat in selected counties for the 2015 crop year. Program details and eligible counties will be made available in the summer of 2014.

STAX

STAX is a standalone/supplemental insurance policy for cotton only. STAX protects against county-wide revenue losses and can supplement a producer's underlying cotton policy, or be purchased as a standalone policy. Producers can elect coverage of up to 20 percent of expected county revenue, depending on the coverage level of their individual cotton insurance policy. STAX payments begin when county revenue falls below 90 percent of its expected level. The premium subsidy for this coverage is 80 percent.

RMA is making every effort to offer STAX to as many producers as possible. STAX will be available in selected counties for the 2015 crop year. Program details and eligible counties will be made available in the summer of 2014.

Crops enrolled in ARC (as well as acreage when enrolled in STAX) will not be eligible for SCO coverage.

Whole Farm Policy

RMA is developing a new whole-farm insurance product that combines AGR and AGR-Lite with improvements to target the following types of farms: (1) Highly diversified farms and (2) Farms selling 2-5 commodities to wholesale markets.

The new product takes into consideration direction provided in the Farm Bill. Whole-farm insurance covers all commodities on the farm including specialty crops. The new whole-farm insurance product was sent for a contracted external expert review by the FCIC Board which is part of the new product development process.

RMA will continue to work on developing a whole farm policy that meets the needs of producers that grow diverse crops. The Farm Bill provides specific requirements for the whole farm policy if the Board does not approve a policy by 2016.

Beginning Farmer Provisions

Beginning farmers will receive increased assistance, which will give them access to risk management tools that are vitally important for beginning farmers. Changes will exempt beginning farmers from paying the \$300 administrative fee for catastrophic policies and provide them, in certain instances, the ability to use the production history of entities where they were previously employed or helped to manage. It will also increase the premium subsidy rates for beginning farmers by ten percentage points during their first five years of farming.

If covered beginning farmers experience a poor yielding crop, they may replace the poor yield in their yield history for determining next year's guarantee with 80 percent of the county T-Yield, which is 20 percentage points higher than they previously would have received.

Coverage Level by Practice

This change provides a producer that produces an agricultural commodity on both dry land and irrigated land the option to elect a different coverage level for each production practice.

Change in T-Yield

When a crop in a county suffers over a 50 percent yield loss, producers in that county and adjacent counties may omit their yield for that year's production. For this provision, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation may make a separate determination for irrigated and non-irrigated acreage.

Organic Expansion

Previous to the passage of the Farm Bill, RMA had taken steps to improve coverage for organic producers. These steps continue to be strengthened by the bill.

RMA has removed the 5 percent surcharge for organic price options. RMA has extended policies for organic price coverage. The agency added organic price elections for 2014 for eight additional crops (oats, peppermint, apricots, apples, blueberries, almonds, pears, and grapes for juice), bringing the total number of crops with organic price elections to sixteen. This allows producers the option to choose to insure their crops at an organic or conventional policy coverage price

set by RMA.

RMA has issued The Contract Price Addendum (CPA) that allows an organic producer who has a written contract from a buyer by the acreage reporting date, the ability to insure an organic crop at the contract price. Producers can now buy a Federal crop insurance guarantee that is more reflective of the actual value of your organic crop.

Peanut Revenue Policy

RMA was directed to provide a revenue crop insurance policy for peanut producers. A private submitter has been working on a policy and if the submission is approved by the FCIC Board this spring it is possible to have this available in the future.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT

Conservation Compliance

In order to receive premium assistance from the federal government for crop insurance, producers will have to comply with highly erodible land and wetland conservation requirements that most already have to comply with as a result of participating in FSA and NRCS programs. RMA will work to utilize the verification process in place to ensure that producers are not overly burdened by this requirement.

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Karen Rugenstein, Farm Loan Manager	Christopher Wager, Farm Loan Manager	Karen Rugenstein, Farm Loan Manager	Christopher Wager, Farm Loan Manager	Christopher Wager, Farm Loan Manager
Ontario County Farm Service Agency	Seneca County Farm Service Agency	Seneca County Farm Service Agency	Steuben County Farm Services Agency	Steuben County Farm Services Agency
3037 County Road 10	2041 US Route 20	2041 US Route 20	415 W Morris St	415 W Morris St
Canandaigua, NY 14424-8303	Seneca Falls, NY 13148	Seneca Falls, NY 13148	Bath, NY 14810-1038	Bath, NY 14810-1038
(585) 394-0525	(315) 568-6346	(315) 568-6346	(607) 776-7398	(607) 776-7398

Upcoming Events

Don't forget to check out the calendar on our website (<http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/events.php>) for more information about these and other events relevant to the Finger Lakes grape industry.

FLGP Tailgate Meetings

Tuesday, May 13

5:00 – 6:30 PM

Fox Run Vineyards, 670 Route 14, Penn Yan, NY

Our annual series of tailgate meetings will be starting up again on Tuesday, May 13. These meetings are held every other week at various grape farms around the Finger Lakes, and are intended to be informal, small-group meetings where FLGP staff and growers can ask questions and discuss issues about vineyard management, IPM strategies or other topics appropriate for that point in the growing season. Last year's meetings were each approved for 0.75 pesticide recertification credits, and we anticipate offering the same again this year.

Locations for each meeting will be announced soon. Watch the '[Events](#)' section of our website for details.

Spring Grape IPM Meeting

Thursday, May 22 4:00 – 6:00 PM

Standing Stone Vineyards

9934 NY Route 414

Hector NY 14841

Hear ye, hear ye! Time once again to recharge your IPM knowledge at the Spring Grape IPM Meeting. This year's meeting will be at Standing Stone Vineyards in Hector NY on Thursday May 22, starting at 4:00 PM. Come hear the latest and greatest hits from some of your favorite pest management gurus – Wayne Wilcox, Greg Loeb, and Andrew Landers. Also on the program is an update on bird control measures (including those air-filled flapping arm guys that were placed in a few vineyards last year) and some important reminders on PPE and tractor safety.

As always, dinner will be provided after the program, so be sure to plan and stick around for some social time and good food.

There is no registration fee for growers who are enrolled in the FLGP for 2014, and a \$10 fee for those who are not enrolled. Growers will be eligible to receive 1.5 pesticide recertification credits at this meeting.

You can register online for the meeting at our website by going to http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/event_preregistration.php?event=141, or by calling our office at 315-536-5134. If you would like to receive credits, please provide us with your pesticide applicator number when you register.

2014 GDD Accumulation

FL Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
4/30/14	54.2	44.6	0.24	0.0	58.8
5/1/14	63.3	49.7	0.27	6.5	65.3
5/2/14	58.8	47.6	0.02	3.2	68.5
5/3/14	60.9	47.4	0.11	4.2	72.7
5/4/14	56.2	44.8	0.00	0.5	73.2
5/5/14	58.1	41.5	0.00	0.0	73.2
5/6/14	58.9	39.9	0.00	0.0	73.2
Weekly Total			0.64"	14.4	
Season Total			3.62"	73.2	

2014 GDD Accumulation

GDDs as of May 6, 2013: 149.0

Rainfall as of May 6, 2013: 2.18"

Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)

Growing Degree Days

	2014 GDD ¹	Long-term Avg GDD ²	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) ³
April	52.1	65.9	-3
May	60.6	93.2	-7
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			

¹ Accumulated GDDs for the month.

² The long-term average (1973-2013) GDD accumulation for that month, or up to the most recent records in the current month.

³ Numbers at the end of each month represent where this year's GDD accumulation stands relative to the long-term average. For example, at the end of April 2014, we were 3 days behind average accumulation. The most recent number represents the current status.

2014 GDD Accumulation (continue from page 6)

Precipitation

	2014 Rain	Long-term	Monthly deviation from
April	2.90"	2.90"	0.00"
May	0.19"	3.09"	
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			

⁴ Monthly rainfall totals up to current date

⁵ Long-term average rainfall for the month (total)

⁶ Monthly deviation from average (calculated at the end of the month)

Additional Information

Got some grapes to sell? Looking to buy some equipment or bulk wine? List your ad on the [NY Grape & Wine Classifieds website](#) today!

Become a fan of the [Finger Lakes Grape Program on Facebook](#), or follow us on [Twitter \(@cceflgp\)](#). Also check out our website, “The Grape Lakes – Viticulture in the Finger Lakes” at <http://flg.cce.cornell.edu>.

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